

Relatives Of 9/11 Victims Speak Out Against City's Recovery Efforts



Anger came out at a press conference on Friday from some of those who lost family members on 9/11 to the news that more than five years later, a Con Edision crew doing work at the world trade center site

uncovered the remains of more victims in two manholes.

They say they've been demanding a more thorough examination of all the debris.

NY1's Solana Pyne filed the following report.

"New York state and New York city need to sit down, call it a summit if you will, with the families and work out the protocol for searching the perimeter of the World Trade Center site and the World Trade Center area that is in Fresh Kills garbage dump," said Diane Horning, President of WTC Families for a Proper Burial, and a mother who lost her son on 9/11.

At the press conference, families said they want an Army forensic team, known as JPAC, brought in to search for remains of more than 1,100 victims that have never been found and said not enough was done right after the tragedy. Richard Sheirer, former

Mayor Giuliani's Emergency Management head, said the army did help during the initial recovery process, but suggested they may need to be brought in again.

"Calling in JPAC is something that should be considered," said Sheirer in a statement. "Everyone shares the anguish of the families."

Current city officials also defended the initial effort and agreed that more must now be done.

"I'm very proud of the work that our people did, I continue to remain so," said Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scopetta. "And we will now with this new development apply the same comprehensive approach."

Mayor Michael Bloomberg called an emergency

meeting at City Hall Friday, both to answer questions about why remains are still being found more than five years after the twin towers fell and to figure out what to do next.

“Why this wasn't discovered five years earlier, I have absolutely no idea why,” said Bloomberg. “But we want to go and look at all of our protocols and develop an ability to search and make sure we check everything underground.”

In a statement after the meeting ended, Deputy Mayor Ed Skyler outlined several new protocols to do just that. “Con Ed and Verizon will inspect several other manholes and underground areas near West Street, and remove any material that may be found,” said Skyler. “Under a protocol reviewed today, the City's Medical Examiner will be on-site to carefully

sift through any material recovered to identify any human remains. The Medical Examiner's forensic anthropologists will work closely with Police and Fire personnel, who will be on scene at all times."

The city also will look for additional areas that should be re-inspected.

